been made for the embellishment of the national capital. been made for the embellishment of the national capital. More than twenty-four millions of dellars, have already been expended from the treasury for public buildings and other purposes, and improvements are now in progress, to complete which large additional amounts will be required. In addition to the public buildings, the United States still retains divers lots, squares, and reservations in the city of Washington, which, at the assessed value, are worth \$13,412,293.56. Under such circumstances, the people of the whole country must ever feel a deep and ab'ding interest in the prosperity and progress of their met opolis.

Special Mexico to regions

h a view to the good government of the people of

the District of Columbia, Congress, at an early day, reemacted the laws of Maryland then in force, and it has
since, as occasion seemed to require, passed others for
their benefit, and provided the means necessary for their
enforcement. As regards the cities of Georgetown and
Washington, the inhabitants have also, by special emactments, been authorized to provide for all malters of local
interest within their respective limits. The corporate authorities of each have been invested with full and unrestricted power to levy and collect taxes, and to expend
the same in any manner which, in their judgment, may
conduce to the health and improvement of their cities,
and the general good and prosperity of the people thereof.
The past legislation of Congress has been examined
with some care, to ascertain, if possible, whether any
fixed or determinate line of po'.cy has ever been adopted
in reference to objects of appropriation within the city of
Washington; what class of improvements Congress has
undertaken to make, and what has been left for the city.
But the search has been in vain, or, rather, Congress has
room time to time made appropriations for almost every
conceivable object. Public squares and open spaces have
been graded and paved, lamps have been lighted along
them and are still kept burning, shade trees throughout
the city have been planted and protected, sewers and
drains have been constructed and kept open, a police
force has been maintained under the control of the Mayor
of the city, the portion of the City Hall in which the circuit and district courts are held has been paid for, the
cuit and district courts are held has been paid for, the
cuit and district courts are held has been paid for, the
cuit and district courts are held has been paid for, the of the city, the portion of the City Hall in which the circuit and district courts are held has been paid for, the pall, the penitentiary, the infirmary, several engine-houses, and the armory have been built, and the bridges across the Potomac and Eastern Branch have been erected and are still kept up by appropriations from the Treasury of the United States. With this record of past legislation, it is but natural that the people of the city should turn their eyes to Congress, and not to the city authorities, when any appropriation is needed or desired for additional improvements of a public character. Hence, petitions have been presented representing the various wants of the city, and concluding with the request, that in the regular annual estimates required to be laid before Congress, item, may be included for enclosing and improving Franklin square and the triangular spaces along ng Franklin square and the triangular spaces along ylvania avenue, the opening of certain streets, the sion of the City Hall for the accommodation of the extension of the City Hall for the accommodation of the criminal court, the erection of a more secure and commodious jail, and various other objects. I have not, however, felt at liberty to comply with these requests, but have restricted the estimates for the next fiscal year to the actual requirements of existing laws, and to those usual and regular appropriations which have annually received the sanction and approval of Congress. Yet I am satisfied that if some definite understanding could be reached, by which the corporate authorities could know what expenditures they are expected to make, and what fairly and justly devolve upon the general government, the future prosperity and improvement of the city would be greatly promoted. greatly promoted.

The subject is environed with nifficulties; but still, for

practical purposes, Congress could, if so disposed, opt some intelligible line of policy, which would save representatives of the people from those claimants ich are so often made, of their neglect in respect to which are so often made, of their neglect in respect to these matters. The squares and open spaces belong to the United States. The city authorities have never been empowered to enter upon and improve them without the consent of the President or Congress. As they are the property of the government, any improvements made upon them will, of course, inure to its benefit; consequently, they should be paid for by it; and, as soon as the condition of the treasury will admit of the expenditure, I recommend that they all be enclosed and handsomely improved. On the contrary, the opening of streets and avenues, grading, paving, and lighting the same, the constructing of sewers and drains, the erection of markets, the support of a police, and whatever may be necessary for the health and cleanliness of the city, properly belong to the city authorities, and the expenses properly belong to the city authorities, and the expenses growing out of them should be raised by taxation in the usual manner. Whether the government, as a property holder, should contribute to these ends in proportion to its interest in the city, is a question which addresses itself exclusively to the discretion of the national legislature.

The addition to the City Hall for the accommodation f the criminal court, and the erection of a new jail, are abjects which commend themselves to the attention of congress. Such buildings are usually erected by the ongress. Such buildings are usually erected by the sople of the locality for whose convenience they are required, and in the present instance they are the best addes of the necessity for additional accommodations. There is, however, at present no means by which the views of the people of the entire District can be taken in reference to these matters, nor, indeed, for raising by taxation the amount required for the improvements suggested, should Congress direct them to be made at their expense. Under these circumstances, therefore, the improvements, if made, should be made at the expense of the general government; or a law should be passed creation. ceneral government; or a law should be passed creating a court or tribunal clothed with power to levy the neces-ary taxes on the whole District to meet the expense, as sary taxes on the whole District to meet the expense, as it would be manifestly unjust to require the people of Washington to defray the entire cost of objects equally used by and useful to the people of Georgetown and those living outside the limits of either city.

The third annual report of the board of visitors of the government hospital for the insane, and the report of the superintendent of that institution, who also acts as

government hospital for the insane, and the report of the superintendent of that institution, who also acts as architectural superintendent and disbursing agent in the construction of the edifice, are herewith communicated. At the beginning of the last fiscal year—July 1, 1857—there remained in the hospital one hundred and ten patients. During that year forty-three were admitted, and thirty-six discharged, leaving, on the 1st of July, 1858, one hundred and seventeen inmates. Of the whole number remaining and admitted into the institution during that year—namely, one hundred and fifty-three—twenty-seven were from the army, thirteen from the navy, one hundred and eleven from eivil life, and two from the Soldiers' Home. Of these, one hundred and thirty-two were white and twenty-one colored. Twelve were independent or pay patients.

waite and twenty-one colored. Twelve were independent or pay patients.

This institution was established by act of Congress, in 1855, and its objects were avowed to be "the most humane care and enlightened curative treatment of the insane of the army and navy of the United States, and of the District of Columbia." Plans for the buildings had the Executive and Congress the District of Columbia." Plans for the buildings had previously been approved by the Executive, and Congress has recognised and sanctioned them; first, by an appropriation of one hundred and ten thousand seven hundred and twenty-one dollars for the erection of the first four sections of the building, and, afterwards, by an appropriation of one hundred and thirty-eight thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars for the creation of the praston of one hundred and thirty-eight thousand six hundred and seventy-three dollars, for the erection of the centre and three sections of the wings. The first four sections have been completed, furnished, and occupied for nearly four years. The appropriation for the centre will be sufficient to complete that portion of the building; and an estimate is now submitted for furnishing it. The completion of the whole building, according to the de-sign originally adopted and approved, will require a fur-ther appropriation of seventy-six thousand one hundred and eleven dollars. To arrest the work at this time would be followed by some sacrifices, if the plan is ever to be carried out, and, for the present, prevent the necessa-ry permanent improvement of the grounds around the establishment. Privacy and freedom from intrusion are establishment. Privacy and freedom from intrusion are important elements in the curative treatment of the unfortunate patients; and these can never be attained to any satisfactory extent while the erection of the building is in progress; and to secure the objects of the institution, as it is now absolutely necessary to occupy the portions already completed, the workmen should be excluded as soon as possible. The superintendent has shown in the past such energy, economy, and efficiency in pressing the work to completion, as well as in the discharge of all the duties of his position, as entitle him to your confidence. The edifice, when completed, with all its conveniences and appliances, will be a model of its kind, and will reflect the highest credit upon the humane and liberal policy of the government.

kind, and will reflect the highest credit upon the humane and liberal policy of the government. It is gratifying to find, from the annual report of the president of the Columbia Institution for the instruction of the deaf and dumb and the blind, herewith transmitthan it was one year ago. With the additional aid of three thousand dollars, granted by Congress at its las than it was one year ago. With the additional aid of three thousand dollars, granted by Congress at its last session, the debt which then burdened it has been paid, and the maintenance and tuition of its pupils fully secured. During the year ending the 30th of June last, there were in the institution eighteen pupils, twelve of whom were mute and six blind. The receipts for the rame period amounted to \$6,513 25, of which \$5,125 75, were contributed by the government: \$2,125 75, under the act of February 16, 1857, for "maintenance and tuition therein," being at the rate of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum for each pupil admitted upon the order

of this department; and \$3,000 under the act of May 29,

of this department; and \$3.000 under the act of May 29, 1858, "for the payment of salaries and incidental expenses of said institution." The disbursements amounted to \$6,193 88, leaving a balance on hand at the commencement of the present fiscal year.

The management and present condition of the penitentiary will be understood from the accompanying report of the board of inspectors, and those of the warden, clerk, physician, chaplain, and matron of the institution. The number of convicts at the close of the year ending September 30, 1857, was 75. On the 30th of September, 1858, the number was 198—66 white and 42 colored. The inspectors are of opinion that they have at length succeeded in effecting an arrangement by which the labor of the convicts will be made to pay the cost of their maintenance, thus relieving the government of all charges for that purpose. If the system, adopted with that view, should accomplish this much, a great improvement upon the past will have been gained. A fair trial shall, at all events, be made, in order to test its practicability, and, under the goldance of our intelligent board of inspectors, I have every confidence in its success.

WAGON BOADS.

The wagon roads placed under the direction of this department have all been located, and for the most part constructed. There is a material improvement of the new over the old routes. Complete reports from some of the superintendents have already been received; the others are in course of preparation. As soon as they are all completed and received they will be communicated to Congress. It is confidently expected that these reports will imbody much interesting and useful information in regard to the respective routes, and the extensive regions through which they pass.

Under the act approved June 5, 1858, authorizing a survey of the boundary line between the State of Texas and the territories of the United States, an effective commission was organized and directed to co-operate with such agents as might be selected by the authorities of Texas. The joint commission was expected to leave San Antonio early in November for the initial point of their operations on the Rio Grande. The wagon-roads placed under the direction of this de-

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS

By a resolution adopted on the 20th of March, 1858, Congress so far amended the joint resolution adopted January 28, 1857, "respecting the distribution of certain public documents," as to increase the number to be placed at the disposal of this department to three hundred and fifty copies of each document printed by order of either branch of Congress, and to direct the distribution thereof to be made to such colleges and other institutions named in the resolution referred to, as should be designated by "the representative in Congress from each congressional district, and by the delegate from each Territory in the United States."

This provision of law relieves the department from the responsibility of selecting the institutions to which the books are to be sent, and limits its duty to the very simple operations of receiving the documents, distributing so many as can be equally apportioned to the several congressional districts and institutions entitled to receive them, and retaining the remainder subject to such future disposition as Congress may direct to be made of them.

From the commencement of the present Congress there will remain, after supplying one institution in each congressional district, and such other public libraries as are entitled to receive the books under special acts of Congress, with one set of documents, a suplus of one hundred and seven sets; for the distribution of which further legislation will be required.

Under the resolution, as originally passed, there should have been placed at the disposal of this department. two hundred and thirty-seven sets of books, as follows:

From the Department of State, 187 sets.

From the Library of Congress, 50 sets.

From the Department to State, 187 sets.

Those from the State Department have been supplied, and the librarian has furnished those required from him to make up the number to which the department is entitled for the 34th Congress, with the exception of twenty copies of "Senate miscellaneous documents," and twenty copies of "Senate miscellan

being six more than can be supplied by this department under the resolution originally passed, even if the whole number therein provided for shall be placed at its dispo-sal. These six, however, can each be supplied with a sal. These six, however, can each be supplied with a full and complete set of the House documents, number-ing fifty-four volumes, and including nearly all of the more valuable publications made by order of the 34th

Congress.

Up to the present time two hundred and the complete sets (each containing one hundred and three volumes) of the documents of the 34th Congress have been distributed, and seven perfect sets remain on hand. In addition to this we have twenty sets complete, lacking two volumes each. All the demands thus far made upon the department for these books have been met; but it will be impossible with the example. be imperable, with the means now on hand, fully to ex-ecute the law so far as relates to the documents of the last Gongress, unless the missing volumes above referred to be obtained.

last Congress, unless the missing volumes above referred to be obtained.

The librarian of Congress was directed by the resolution of the 28th January, 1857, also to transfer to this department the fifty additional copies of the documents printed by order of either house, "for the purpose of exchange in foreign countries," under the resolution of July 20, 1840, and the fifty copies of "the public lournals and documents of the House of Representatives," directed by resolution of April 30, 1844, "to be deposited in the library of Congress," and a list of the books thus received is herewith submitted. These are in broken sets, and some of them in a damaged condition, owing, as I am informed by the librarian, to the fire which some years since destroyed the congressional library, and the insecure manner in which they have since been kept. They are consequently of but little value; yet it is recommended that some provision be made for their distribution, that the space occupied by them may be used for other and more useful purposes.

CENSUS.

The constitution provides that the actual enumeration of the intransation of the United States shall be taken at periods of every ten years, in such manner as shall be directed by law. The near approach of the period for taking the eighth census makes it incumbent upon Con-gress at this session to provide the means necessary for

the commencement of the work.

The law approved May 23, 1850, providing for taking The law approved May 23, 1850, providing for taking the seventh census, was drawn with great care, and it requires that if no other law shall be passed prior to the first day of January, 1860, superseding it, the Secretary of the Interior shall proceed to take the eighth census according to its provisions. The plan of the last census was devised by a census board of eminent men, and was the result of unusual preparation. It was reported to, and adopted by, Congress after the most searching scrutiny and careful amendment, and presented no feature which interposed any obstacle to its easy execution. Its schedules were full and comprehensive; by them we not only ascertained the number and character of our-population, and the condition of activities. not only ascertained the number and character of ourpopulation, and the condition of agriculture, manufactures, and trade, but they also embraced within their
scope the examination of many moral and social facts,
illustrative of the intelligence, prosperity, and happiness
of the people; the duration of life, and the causes of
death. The value of these developments will be greatly
chanced by such uniformity in future censuses as will
enable us to institute comparisons and exactly determine
our progress, without which the results-lose most of their
significance and interest. Although the greatest precautions may have been exercised, it was impossible to execute
so great a work for the first time without some imperfections, which the experience of the past, it is hoped, will
enable the department to prevent in the future. To
change the schedules, or to enlarge or multiply them,
will but tend to embarrass our officers, and throw suspicion upon the accuracy of the information obtained.
With these views I cannot do otherwise than recommend
adherence to the law of May 23, 1850, in the belief that
a census taken in accordance with its provisions will afford the greatest amount of accurate information and census taken in accordance with its provisions will af-rd the greatest amount of accurate information, and

ford the greatest amount of accurate information, and prove most satisfactory to the country.

The census of the Territory of Minnesota which Congress, by act of February 26, 1857, directed to be taken under the supervision of this department, was not finally returned until the 23d of July last. Many causes, inseparably incident to the prosecution of such a work in a new country, combined to produce this delay. The facts returned by the local officers have since been classified and arranged in this department. The most prominent of these may be briefly stated as follows:

Census of Minnesota, September 21, 1857. males..... Aggregate population _______150,092
Number of families _______32,836

The digest of the statistics of manufactures, according to the returns of the seventh census, which Congress, at the last session, directed to be completed, is in a state of forwardness, and the same will be communicated to Con-gress at an early day. Care has been taken to employ

highly interesting in themselves, but will also tend to facilitate future investigations in reference to this branch of statistics. The results thus far ascertained are as fol-

Capital \$500,000,000 Cost of labor and raw material 773,000,000

The experience of the past year leads me again to recommend the amendment of the laws regulating the compensation of the United States district attorneys, marshals, and clerks of courts, in order to render the important branch of the service with which they are connected more harmonlous and efficient.

Modifications in other respects could likewise be made with great advantage, but as they were so fully indicated in my last report, I deem it only necessary on this occasion to refer thereto.

in my last report, I deem it only necessary on this occa-sion to refer thereto.

Notwithstanding the steady growth of the country, and the consequent regular increase of business in the courts, the expenses of the judiciary for the last year were somewhat less than they had previously been, and a considerable balance of the appropriation for this ob-ject remained unexpended on the 39th June last. Yet, ject remained unexpended on the 39th June last. Yet, owing to the contingent nature of many of the accounts chargeable to this fund, I have not deemed it wise to reduce the estimate for the next fiscal year. But if, by the practice of proper economy, the expenses of the present year should not exceed those of the last, and it is hoped they will not, it is respectfully suggested that the department be authorized to apply so much of the unexpended balance as may remain on hand at the close of the year, as may be necessary to the purchase of the building leased by it, in the city of New York, for court purposes. At present, we are naving for the use of this

building leased by it, in the city of New York, for court purposes. At present, we are paying for the use of this building \$16,000 per annum, with the privilege of buying it, within three years, for the sum of \$215,000.

For many years the United States courts for the southern district of New York, were held in the City Hall be longing to the city of New York and rooms procured in different parts of the city for the use of the judges and other officers, at an aggregate annual rent of from \$12,600, to \$22,500. During the last year, the city authorities notified the department that it must obtain other other accommodations, and thereupon immediate steps were taken by it to that end. After the most careful examination of the various buildings effered for our use, that known as Burton's Theatre, on Chambers street, was selected as the most eligible; and with the advice of the judges, district attorney and marshal, it was leased for live years, with the privilege of retaining it ten years longer, if desired, at the rate already mentioned. Such changes have been made as were necessary to adapt the hanges have been made as were necessary to adapt the uilding to our purposes, involving an additional expense f about twenty-five thousand dollars, including cost of

tantly increasing amount of business must continue to be brought before the United States courts for adjudication, and if in any portion of the country it be expedient for the government to erect or purchase a building for the accommodation of its courts, it is eminently proper for it to do so at that point. The district court continues in session, with slight interruptions, during the entire year, and the circuit court quite one-third of it, and the cases in each involve varied and extensive interests. The building lensed is a further than the cases are commondate both with

in each involve varied and extensive interests. The building leased is of sufficient size to accommodate both, with all their officers, and it is well located and of easy access to those having business therewith.

In this connexon it may be stated that the purchase, contemplated in the act of 4th May last, of the "Masonic Temple," in the city of Boston, for the use of the United States courts for the district of Massachusetts, has been completed, and the building thus secured, when properly fitted up, will, it is believed, afford ample accommodations of the most satisfactory character. The property is well located, and it has been procured at a fair price.

The operations of the Patent Office furnish the most The operations of the Patent Office furnish the most gratifying proofs of our progress as a people in all the useful arts of civilized life. The rewards which genius here secures revive the hearts and strengthen the resolution of the inventors of our country, who have already accomplished so much for its reputation and prosperity. The ability, industry, and efficiency with which the complicated duties of this office have been met and disposed of deserve your favorable consideration. Although the business is exceedingly heavy, yet I have heard no complaint of delay in its despatch.

The commercial revulsion of 1857 was severely felt in the operations of this bureau, especially during the last quarter of that and the first quarter of the current year. A reaction, however, soon followed, and the records now show a healthy and prosperous condition of affairs.

The income of the office for the three quarters ending September 30, 1858, was \$150,983 91. Its expenditures during the same period amounted to \$144,433 47, show-

show a healthy and prosperous condition of affairs.

The income of the office for the three quarters ending September 30, 1858, was \$150,983 91. Its expenditures during the same period amounted to \$144,433 47, showing a surplus of revenue over expenditure of \$6,550 44 against an excess of expenditure over the receipts of \$2,526 07 for the corresponding quarters of 1857.

From the 1st of January to the 30th of September, 1858, four thousand and ninety-one applications for patents were received, and six hundred and ninety-six caveats filed, against four thousand and ninety-six caveats filed, against four thousand and ninety-six caveats for the corresponding quarters of last year. During the same period, two thousand eight hundred and sixteen patents were issued, fifteen extensions of old patents granted, and twelve hundred and fifty-six applica-

ated, and twelve hundred and fifty-six applicacities granted, and tweete inharted and inty-six applica-tions rejected.

Certain changes and modifications of the laws regula-ting the administration of this bureau were recommended to the favorable consideration of Congress in my last au-nual report. The experience of another year has strengthnual reports. The experience of another year has strength-ened the conviction then expressed, that the efficiency of the service requires that the modifications then suggest-ed, or something equivalent thereto, should be adopted. Indeed, I am prepared to go further, and recommend the establishment of a board of appeal in addition to the pres-

orthogonal of a court of appear in addition to the present force of the office.

The establishment of such a board would restore to The catabilishment of such a board would restore to their respective classes the three examiners, now almost exclusively engaged in hearing appeals. At present the overwhelming pressure of the business of the office compels the examiners to dispose of cases hurriedly and unsatisfactorily, if not superficially. With the proposed addition to the examining corps, a thorough scrutiny of the claims to novelty which every application prescuts—a scrutiny demanded alike by the interests of the inventor and of the public—waill be scenned.

scrutiny demanded alike by the interests of the inventor and of the public—will be secured.

A very slight but just modification of the existing tariff of fees would enable the office to sustain itself, notwith-standing the increased expenditure which the proposed change in its personnel would involve. The policy of change in its personnel would involve. The policy of keeping the expenditures of the bureau within its reve-mes is approved, and has heretofore been rigidly main-tained, and for this reason greater confidence is felt in an appeal to Congress for liberal and favorable legislation in its behalf.

speal to Congress for liberal and favorable legislation in its behalf.

The subject of agriculture appears to occupy an increased share of public attention, and every new fact in relation to the productions of the earth is received with favor by the country. The agricultural division of the Patent Office may justly claim that it has contributed more than any other agency in exciting the interest thus manifested. By means of the appropriations made from year to year "for the collection of agricultural statistics, investigations for promotiog agricultural and rural economy, and the procurement and distribution of cuttings and seeds," great material advancement has already been effected; and, though much remains to be done, the advantage to the country from these expenditures cannot be too highly estimated. A few years ago science had done comparatively little for the farmer; the modes of cultivation were careless and without system; the component elements of the soil and of many valuable fertilizers were not understood, and costly manures were generally applied without knowledge, and often without benefit; and improvements by means of the introduction of superior seeds and cuttings were dependent upon the feeble and variable exertion of individual enterprice. It was then that the Patent Office, in obedience to the execution of its utilitarian plans, including investigations into the character of sois, the peculiarities of different climates, and the collection of accurate information in regard to the suitableness of the several divisions of the country for the propagation of desirable plants and animals. A great mass of facts has been collected, collated, published, and scattered broadcast among the people, together with improved seeds and new plants, and directions as to the the propagation of desirable plants and animals. A great mass of facts has been collected, collated, published, and scattered broadcast among the people, together with improved seeds and new plants, and directions as to the best modes of cultivation. The public attention has thus been awakened and arrested; agricultural societies have sprung into existence in every State, and almost every county over the whole country; men of science have been induced to tecture upon agriculture and its kindred subjects, and thus shed a flood of light upon all the processes of nature in the vegetable productions of the earth and the economy of animal life; public fairs have been encouraged, and competition in every branch of agricultural industry fostered by awards of premiums to the most successful; newspapers and magazines devoted to agriculture in all its branches have been established,

and seeds have become an article of merchandise in almost every village; and professorships in our colleges have been instituted with the view of impressing upon the young student the advantages of celentific knowledge in its application to production.

Among the primary advantages of this official agency may be enumerated uniformity of method, concurrence of action, and the communication of results to a common centre for comparison and claboration and subsequent judicious publication. Although it may be admitted that experiments have been made, and seeds distributed, which have proved of little profit, yet, in a country possessed of so great a variety of soil and climate, it was wise to essay the propagation of every plant affording any hope of usefulness, especially as each success would more than compensate for all the cost and trouble attending many instances of failure. A few examples of this character may with propriety be here cited. The apparently waning sugar culture of the United States has been re-invigorated by the introduction of rattons of new varieties from Demarara and Caraccas. The success attending the culture of the Chinese sugar cane in the southern, middle, and western States has been greatly augmented, fully equaling all that was anticipated from it. It is believed that not less than a hundred thousand acres have this year been devoted to its culture, for a run-making and forage for stock, for both which pur-

ly augmented, fully equalling all that was anticipated from it. It is believed that not less than a hundred thousand acres have this year been devoted to its culture, for a irup-making and forage for stock, for both which purposes it is generally, if not universally, pronounced admirably adapted. • Of the cereals, the different varieties of wheat and barley, introduced from regions adjacent to the Mediterranean, and from France, are highly appreciated by intelligent farmers. The chufa, which was obtained from Spain and extensively distributed, has been successfully cultivated, it is believed, in every State in the Union. From the recent analysis of this tuber, as well as from the testimony of many cultivators, the belief is warranted that it will prove of great value. The cork oak, also introduced from Spain, has found so much favor that a large supply of acorns has been ordered.

In conformity with plans for promoting the culture of the grape and the manufacture of wine, an effort is in progress to collect the indigenous vines, and, after a series of experiments, to induce the cultivation of the more approved varieties in their appropriate localities.

It is believed that the effort now making to obtain information in regard to the several varieties of the teaplant, the soils and climates best adapted to their growth, and the methods pursued in their culture and subsequent preparation for commerce and consumption, is the most earnest, and likely to prove the most decisive, that has ever been made in this country or in Europe; and it is hoped that, before the expiration of another year, a degree of progress will have been attained in this enterprise upon which to base an intelligent opinion respecting its uitimate success. In view of the facts, that the importation of the grape and its products, raisins, wine, and brandy, as shown in the average of four years ending with 1867, involves an annual expenditure of \$6,718,235, and of tea of \$6,602,984, and that the domestic production, by insuring unadulterated and

The entomologist in this branch of the service has been The entomologist in this branch of the service has been stationed in the region of the St. John's river, Florida, where he is occupied in investigations relative to the insects infesting the orange tree and cotton plant, in the hope of devising means to destroy them or prevent the injuries they inflict, and in noting all the accidents and diseases to which this tree and plant are liable, and endeavoring to ascertain the causes thereof and the most efficient vary entires and remedies.

deavoring to ascertain the causes thereof and the most efficient preventives and remedies.

The result of the researches of the chemists during the past year are recorded in the Report on Agriculture for 1857. These persons have been employed during the present year in analyzing the ash of the tobacco plants and their soils, as found in Massachusetts, Maryland, Kentucky, Florida, and the Island of Cuba. A chemical

kentucky, Florida, and the Island of Cuba. A chemical examination has also been ordered to ascertain the composition of the soils of East Florida, peculiarly adapted to the growth of Sea Island cotton.

In presenting these as a portion of the objects to which the liberal grants made by Congress for the advancement of agriculture have been appropriated, I would remark that, in view of the fact that ours is emphatically a country to the season of t that, in view of the fact this ours is emphatically a coun-try of cheap lands, where every citizen so inclined may easily become a landed proprietor, and that so large a proportion of the people are devoting themselves to the cultivation of the soil, it cannot be considered that the government has acted prodigally or unwisely in attempt-ing in its legislation to elevate agriculture, so essential to our wealth and prosperity as a nation, at least to an equality with other pursuits.

In closing this report, I take pleasure in commending to your favorable notice, the fidelity and promptness with which the officers connected with the Department of the

which the officers connected with the Department of Interior have discharged their respective duties.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. THOMPSON,

Secretary of the Interior

The PRESIDENT of the United States.

COURT OF CLAIMS.

DECEMBER 9, 1858. Cadwallader Wallace rs. The United States. Mr. Gil let, the Solicitor, commenced the argument in this case for the United States, and, without concluding, it was ordered that the court adjourn until Monday next at 12

CRIME AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.—The Buffalo Comm Advertiser narrates at length the criminal career of Har-low Case. Fourteen years ago, (says that paper,) he was an esteemed citizen here, holding the place of assistant postmaster under Mr. Dorsheimer, and was for many years entrusted with the more important duties of the office. A member of one of the Baptist churches, upright in every walk of life, married, and the father of a family by of a family, he seemed to be as firm in the straightforward paths of virtue as any other. Removing to Sandusky, Ohio, he received the appointment of collector of that port under Mr. Fillmore. The appointment was one universally approved, and the numerous friends of Case, in this city, were rejoiced at his success in life. While holding that office he was intimate in the family of a Mr. F., one of his assistants. Mrs. F. was young, beautiful, impassioned, and a fatal attachment grew between the two, which remained unsuspected until the truth was made known by the sudden elopement of Case with Mrs. F., and the simultaneous discovery that he had absconded with government funds to the amount of \$34,000. From that time forward nearly all trace of the geilty pair was lost. The family of Case, bereaved and seilty pair was lost. The family of Case, bereaved and now from off the sea come tidings—a broken, half-told story of lonely wanderings in a foreign land; a full re-cital of a naver construction. cital of a never-ceasing remorse, with pitiful and solita-leaths in far-away islands and on the stormy waters

The "race week" at Charleston, S. C., in Februa will be very brilliant. Messrs. Hunter, of New York Doswell, of Virginia, and Hardens, of Tennessee, ar already on the ground with their stables; the first-name bringing Nicolos, (by Glencoe, out of Nannie Rhodes, by Wagner,) who is claimed to be the best four-mile racer in

Christianity was formally reinstalled in Japan, at the residence of Consul General Harris, on Sunday, August 1 1858. This was the first time Protestant worship has even been held in a kingdom containing a population es timated at forty million—a third more than the entire population of the United States.

The Illinois Central railway company have closed a contract for the erection of a good, substantial depot a Cairo city, the southern terminus of the line. The building will be of stone and iron, 250 feet long and 30 wide one end to be two stories high, to be situated on the side of the main track.

e South Carolina house of representatives, nov session, numbers 123 members, of whom 43 are planter 43 lawyers, 11 farmers, 7 physicians, 5 merchants, planters and physicians, 4 planters and lawyers, 1 plant and merchant, 1 farmer and physician, and 1 mechani The Alton Railroad Telegraph Company have laid

cable beneath the Walssh at Terre Haute, and also one beneath the Mississippi at St. Louis, and so far the conti-nuity continues perfect. De Santy has no control over Much interest is felt at the West at the result of the

trial of speed between the Overland and the Tchuanteporoutes, in conveying the President's message to Sa

exercise of "snow-shoeing" is a favorite sport in Montreal in the winter season. A silver cup, the gift of General Sir William Eyre, is to be competed for this win-ter by the Montreal Snow-shoe Club.

WASHINGTON CITY.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1858.

Business Notice.

ENGLAND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF FREE IN-ALLIANCE: England is the only considerable power in Europe

which maintains a constitutional government. The

entire continent is a fortified camp-a grand mili-

tary establishment-which commands sovereign au-

thority over cabinets, courts, and legislatures.

There is, strictly speaking, no civil administration.

The animating principle of all government is in the

War Office. These simple facts should be remen

bered in connexion with the Anglo-French alliance.

been steady, uniform, and certain ever since the great charter was wrested from King John. Then,

what means the Anglo-French alliance? Does it

They give us the key to unlock and expose the motives of the two parties, and furnish us at the same time with material by which we can judge of the probable duration of the compact. We are in this country deeply interested in understanding the character of the alliance. Nobody doubts the sentiments of the British nation upon it. They contemplate no surrender of their rights-no sacrifice of the principles of constitutional government-no backward movement looking to the disfranchisement of the people. They would have no alliance which could weaken their power as a free nation. They constitute the break-water against which the surges of military despotism on the Continent may beat in vain Strengthened by local fortifications and by a colossal naval force always at command, the citadel of their power, after all, is in the judgment and indomitable will of the people themselves. They are unconquerable and their vigilance, watchfulness, and sagacity are equal to their courage and fidelity to the cause of free government. However much we may find to condemn in our great cousins, we have no just right to suspect them of treachery to the cause of free institutions. They maintain a monarchical system, but their progress towards popular enfranchisement has

look to the accomplishment of any purposes inconsistent with the integrity of the British system of government? Does it embrace an understanding that free institutions shall remain quite intact in England, and elsewhere be treated as tares in the political vineyards of the world? Has England purchased an exemption from assaults upon herself by agreeing to principles of active intervention elsewhere? Is the decrepid monarchy of Spain to be rejuvenated?-are the broken columns of Spanish power to be removed and the old structure repaired and fortified under the direction of the great architects and engineers of Paris We cannot believe so. Such a programme would be equivalent to the abdication of government in England. The institutions of that country are not old furniture to be thus laid away in safe storage. The British navy, so long the mistress of the seas, is not thus to be dismantled or hidden under the safeguards of her forts and arsenals. England has not lost her courage as well as her sagacity. But these are analytical speculations only. Time will develop their justice and their injustice. Meanwhile the American people have no right to infer that our transatlantic brethren contemplate the least, the very least surrender of the great principles of popular rights in her alliance with the government of Napoleon. Indeed, if we were ambitious of the distinctions of prophecy, we should say that any attempt on the part of France to intervene in American affairs for the purpose of re-establishing monarchical rule on this Continent would test the strength and ultimately break the back of the Anglo-French alliance. We can have no political league with England; but we have an industrial connexion with that country than the British constitution itself. This is not the language of extravagance. It is the simple truth, of which we are perpetually notified by the intercourse of the two peoples, and by their thorough identification in a comprehensive and minute system of mutual exchange of products, and consequent dependence one upon the other. This is our alliance with England; and, without expressing a word of distrust of that people, we are confident it is one which will endure long after the Anglo-French compact shall have been forgotten even by historical readers. The day has gone by when nations can be long controlled and governed by the personal ambitious schemes of individuals. There is a law now which governs mankind-a law which may not, for the mo ment, be executed, but which, in spite of all obstructions, will find means for its own ultimate enforcement Those who rule in Europe ought to feel that, though they are supreme to-day, their tenures are no longer of divine origin, and that the car of revolution, whose wheels seem so completely blocked, may again be set in motion by the irresistible power of the popular will. At least, they ought to be wise enough not to undertake a system of expansion which shall attempt to exercise power on this side of the water. We cannot speak for the London cabinet; but we hold it to be imposssible that the British people would ever consent to a movement in their rear which, being successful, would place them at the mercy of the absolutistic governments of Europe. In this part of the world we have no idea of going

backwards. We can see a great improvement on the backwards. We can see a great improvement on the transactions of the last generation, and much more upon that period of human existence and government when Athens and Sparta put to death the heralds of Darius, who came to demand earth and water in token of submission "to the great King." We maintain free institutions—our sovereigns are too numerous to be objects of curiosity, and our people are confident act only of their safety but of their right to exercise a general supervisory control over the political concerns of this continent. If this is done solely with a view of upholding free institutions, and to the utter exclusion of all personal ambition and advantage, the people of Eugland will never be armed against us. Except for the rapid and colossal growth of the United States, the British system would be in danger of overthrow from the antagonistic governments of the Continent. We have done in this way more for the defence of England than

her own great navy and her seacoast fortifications have done. We have organized an irresistible reserve. which exercises, through its industrial system, a direct and potent influence upon the people of the whole world; and that with a trained and practised militia force of a million and a half of men; with a monopoly of seamen; a powerful commercial ma rine; a country full of resources; a people wealthy and prosperous, and a government without debt places us upon vantage ground which we trust is sufficient to exempt us from all intervention from abroad. All this is really defensive of England The latter, in comparison with the great governments of the continent, is weak and powerless; but as the European representative of free institutions if she is true to her position, fortified by the United States, she is still invincible.

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

We lay before the readers of the Union to-day the elaborate report of Mr. Secretary Thompson on the affairs of the Department of the Interior. The concerus of this branch of the public service are direct ly interesting to a large portion of the American people. We embraced a recent occasion to present some of the leading features of this great depart ment of the government, and if there are any who regard our remarks as at all exaggerated they have only to recur to the details of the Secretary's report to correct their impressions and vindicate the truth of what we said. There is no branch of the service to compare at all, in the magnitude, intricacy, and variety of its operations, with what is placed in the hands of Mr. Thompson. Either of the four chief offices under his general charge—the Land, the Pen sion, the Patent, and the Indian-embraces an amount of important and delicate duties which might well claim the exclusive attention of the best intellect in the country. But, in addition to these several offi ces, which are under the immediate charge of com missions-gentlemen of the highest qualifications and merit-the Secretary of the Interior is required to superintend a great variety of other business of a troublesome and perplexing nature. We have no time to enter into an analysis of the report, and it is quite unnecessary to do so, as the affairs of that department are of such absorbing interest that few will neglect to read the detailed history of it which the Secretary has so ably rendered.

THE JACKSON MONUMENT AT MEMPHIS. - A bust of Gen Jackson, by Frazee, is to be inaugurated at Memphis on the 8th of January next. Hon. Jefferson Davis has been invited to deliver an oration, and there will be other appropriate ceremonies. The bust is to be protected by done, copied as to its plan as nearly as consistent with architectural taste from that which, at the Hermitage, covers the tomb of General and Mrs. Jackson.

News rhom Pike's Prak.—The St. Louis papers mention the arrival there, in twenty-two days from Pike's Peak, of a party of Georgia gold-miners. They left the Georgia mines on the 3th of last February, and arrived at their destination on the 23d of June. Since then they have been engaged in mining and prospecting with uniform success. They are old miners, having worked for years, both in California and Georgia, and being the oughly conversant with mining operations, their opinion in regard to the Cherry Creek diggings is entitled to much consideration. With the present rude implements at the mines, from three to ten dellars can be easily made per day; where proper machinery is introduced, the at the mines, from three to ten deltars can be easily made per day; when proper machinery is introduced, the amount will be increased four-fold. The gold is of a rich quality, and appears of inexhaustible quantity. The woods in the vicinity of the mines abound in all kinds game. The soil is highly productive. Coal has been found at the base of the mountains on the Platte, in seams of from one to twelve feet thick.

PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS.

Hon. Henry M. Phillips has been elected Grand Master Mr. Cozzens has read to the New York publishers hi

eport connected with the International Copyright Corress at Brussels. Henrietta Polydore, who was brought from Utah b Judge Eckles, in obedience to instructions from our government, sailed for England on Wednesday, in the Africa

Capt. Charles H. Harper, who died recently at Louis ville, commanded the "Guards" of that city during their Mexican campaign, and distinguished himself at Monterey. Mr. Ashbel Smith, who was the minister of Texas a Paris and London prior to her annexation, has retired fron political life, and taken charge of a large academy at Houston.

Gerrit Smith figures that, taking in the expense of tax elling, establishing newspapers, feeding pauper followers &c., his vote for governor at the late election cost him

Bisl-op Early has returned to his home at Lynchburgh Va., from the frontier conferences, in feeble health During his trip he has travelled some four thousand miles; no inconsiderable portion of it over the wilds on miles; no inconsiderable portion of it over the wilds on the backs of Indian ponies, and over prairies where the mud was so deep that it was with difficulty that any headway could be made.

Col. Burns and his brother Willie were enests at dinner party given by Consul Beverly Tucker at Liver-pool on the 22d Oct. The Colonel (writes one who was pool on the 22d Oct. The Colonel (writes one who was present) seems quite infirm, although only sixty-four years of age; his hair is white as snow, and his hand trembles very much. He spoke of his father, of his mother, of Scotland; had lived in India nearly thirty years, never during that time having had a day's six ness. He talks of and sings his father's songs. He sang the air which Robert Burns wrote to his mother, a very sweet thing, and "John Anderson my Joc."

THE WANDERER. - Some of the officers and crew of this now famous vessel have arrived at Charleston. She is now off our southern coast, and may be expected here in a few days. She is reported to have been left at Brins a lew days. She is reported to have been left at brain-wick, Georgia, in charge of Capt. W. C. Corrie, who had abtained a clearance at that port. She bad previously landed further south, after a dashing frolle on the broad Atlantic, and doing, no doubt, some maughty things. She will, however, receive a cheerful and forgiving wel-come. She had had a narrow escape before landing from a gale.—Charleston News, 6th.

A proposition to raise by the 1st of January next 100,000 as an endowment for Randolph Macon College as been so far accomplished that only \$6,000 remain to

HON. EDWARD EVERETT AND THE NEW YORK LEDGER. In our advertising columns will be found the prospects of the New York Ledger, which contains all the particulars relative to Mr. Everett's engagement to write for that paper. The Louisville Journal, in speaking of this that paper. The Louisville Journal, in speaking or usengagement, says:
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